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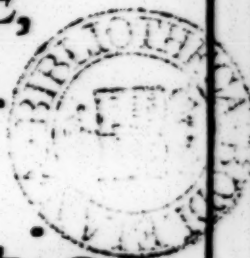
A SERMON

Preached in

Trinity-College Chappel in
CAMBRIDGE,

December 21. 1721.

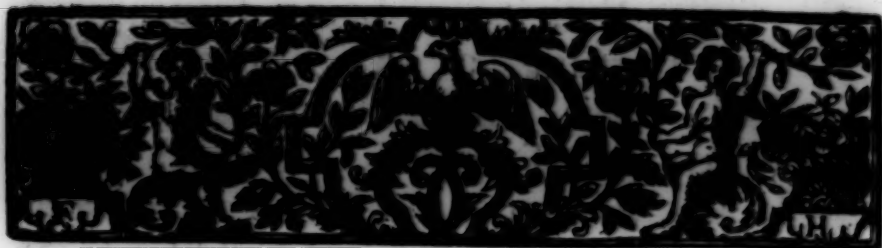
IN
Commemoration
OF THE
FOUNDERS
AND
BENEFACTORS.



By *THO. PARNE*, A.M.
Fellow of that College, and Chaplain to the
Right Honourable *Anthony Lord Lucas*.

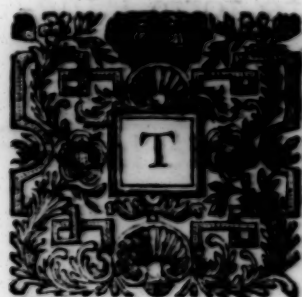
L O N D O N:
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Gen. vi. latter Part 4. V.

*The same became mighty Men,
which were of old Men of Re-
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THE praising of famous Men, to which we are exhorted in the Service for this Occasion, is a proper Subject for this Discourse, how unequally soever I shall be able to prosecute it; this the Solemnity of the Day requires. Nor is this less agreeable to my own Inclination; for I have a strong Sense of the least Favour I ever receiv'd; their Memory will always be dear to me, to whom I owe any Share of the Benefits I enjoy, in a Society so admirably constituted, so nobly endow'd; Benefits, that set us out of the Inconvenience of a mean Fortune, and above the uneasy Affectation of a great one.

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But I shou'd not speak of Gratitude, and a Sense of the Felicity of being secure of a competent Fortune, as any Thing peculiar to my self; It is, I hope, I am confident it is the Spirit and Temper of the Society.

As I am then to speak on a Subject, which I would so willingly, if possible, treat to Advantage, of something so deservedly acceptable to the Audience; I could now wish to be eloquent, to be possess'd, at least for an Hour, of that moving Force of Words, which the Ancients had in such Perfection, which we so justly admire: Eloquence, that charms and moves the Hearts of Men, that sets forth common Things with Dignity, great ones with Lustre. It has been made Use of indeed to form Panegyrics on Monsters, or what are like them, on Tyranny and Violence, Superstition and Bigottry; it has for Ostentation declaim'd against its own Beauties, or their Source and Fountain, good Sense; or laboured to give the Shadow of Encomiums to Folly and Impertinence. But these are Abuses and Distortions of it; it is the Part of this charming, whether Art or Faculty, not only to deter Men from what is vicious and shameful, and spur them on to what is commendable and glorious; but also to make present remote Ages, and revive the Memory of Names and Things, long buried under Silence and Oblivion; to eternize the Characters of Men, glorious for Probity, Goodness, Learn-

Learning and Honour: It is its Business to paint the Beginnings, Progress, and Achievements of great Actions; to shew the Portraits of illustrious Persons, and noble Structures, when they themselves appear nothing but formless Ashes, and mouldering Ruins. And if Designs of this Kind are well pursu'd and finish'd, they give such Light to our Views, thro' the dark Scenes of distant Time, as renders them not more agreeable, than useful in human Life.

And surely, if flowing Sentences and harmonious Periods, and a more than ordinary Pomp of Words, be at any Time allowable; one wou'd wish to employ them in celebrating the noble Qualities of those, from whom we derive so many valuable Blessings; in displaying the Excellency of their magnificent and pious Designs, and the Happiness of their Effects; to imprint on us a Veneration for their Names and Virtues; and to inspire us with a glorious Ambition of imitating them so far as we may; to quicken us in the Pursuit of those useful and laudable Ends, for which their Munificence and Charity design'd us.

But it would be rash in me to propose, I should sink under the Execution of such a Design: It must be sufficient to draw our Heroes in their natural Features; to give a Narrative of Matters of Fact, and make such Reflexions as are plain and obvious to every one that thinks at all on the Matter.

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And this perhaps will not only be a useful, but the only Way of treating this Subject: It needs no Art to give it borrow'd Advantages: Artificial Lights are only necessary in Pieces, that have naturally nothing but Gloominess and Shade. Warmth and Sun-shine may be felt or seen, but will be lost, or suffer in the most elaborate Description or Representation. If we be not admir'd, we shall be the more easily credited; for search'd for Encomiums are apt to smell of the Lamp; and labour'd Praises are always suspected, often nauseous.

The earliest of our Benefactors, at least of those whom Time has not laid under Oblivion, was *Harvey de Stanton*, Justice of the Common-Pleas, and Canon of *York and Wells*; who, more than four hundred Years ago, founded *Michael-House*, a College of large Revenues, and the most ancient in *Cambridge*, after *Peter-House*. He was a Person who had very numerous and rich Preferments, and had a Soul equal to them: He had in his Life-time built and endow'd his College, a genuine sign of a noble and liberal Disposition; for truly it is in it self but a low Proof of Generosity, to give away to whatever Use what we can no longer keep; to be free of that when we are dying, which we are sordidly tenacious of while we live; but we see in his Testament also great Instances of the Splendour of his Fortune, his Munificence and Charity.

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He there leaves considerable Legacies to his College, and the Cathedrals of which he was a Member, to seven of his Parishes, and to more than double the Number of religious Fraternities ; and with no less Generosity than Grandeur, he bequeaths Rewards of Service to such of his Esquires as should be in his House at his Death ; to his inferior and meanest Servants, and many other Persons.

It was not long after, that another of the Societies, now united in this, *King's-Hall*, was founded by the victorious Hands of *Edward* the Third. It is not agreeable to our Profession, it scarce becomes the Mouths of the Ministers of the Prince of Peace, to celebrate bloody Triumphs ; to give creditable Names to Rapine, Violence, Misery and Widowhood, the sorrowful Effects of a successful Invasion : We might otherwise have mention'd, with what undaunted Bravery, and surprizing Fortune, he attempted the Conquest of *France*. In this, neither formidable Fleets laid to obstruct his Passage, vastly superior Numbers of the adverse Party, nor whatever Obstacles Art or Nature could throw in his Way, could pall his Courage, or retard his Course. There is not any Instance of martial Prowess in any real History, nor scarce in Fiction, which shines with greater Lustre, than his Story, in our Annals : Witness the Fields of *Cressy*, stain'd with the Blood of thousands of their
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slaughter'd Natives. These splendid Successes rais'd his Reputation to the Height of Glory, thro' all *Europe*. The Electors of the Empire chose him King of the *Romans*; in which, whether their Choice, or his Refusal of the Dignity offer'd, did him most Honour, is not easie to determine. He was not indeed alone in his great Actions: His Queen, the best of Wives, rais'd an Army in his Absence, to oppose the *Scotch* Invaders, routed and imprison'd their King: His Son, the bravest of Men, overthrew the *French* like a Thunderbolt, wherever he came, and brought a second King Captive into his Father's Dominions. *England* at once saw her Monarch with two mighty Princes in his Power, and saw him treat them in a Manner worthy himself and them. Was *Thornhill* to accomplish what, the great but careless, *Vario* neglected, was our Library to be embellish'd with Painting, here is a Triumph of our Founders equal to its Roof; more worthy an *English* College, and as glorious and honourable to our Nation, as those, once design'd for it, of *Paulus Æmilius*, or *Cæsar*, to the *Romans*.

To this Foundation, *Richard* the 2^d appropriated very valuable Mannors. It becomes us to acknowledge what we owe to this unhappy Prince, and it grieves us that we cannot in Return applaud, but must lament his other Conduct: That mislead by
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Ill Advice, he too soon lost the favourable Prejudices, which his Father and Grandfather's Virtue and Success had given him in the Minds of his Subjects. We could wish that we could make any sufficient Apology for what is charged upon him: We would have the Mistakes and Weakness to which human Understanding is liable, mentioned to palliate what was amiss. But it may be best to say nothing of Actions so defenceless: We cannot owe him a Vindication of such Proceedings: Proceedings so like those of a later unfortunate Reign, that the remembring them may be easily Mistaken for Reflexions on it. We will therefore pass them over, and repeat what is for his Praise, his Value for good Literature, manifested in his Bounty to us.

Nor is *King's-College* and *Eaton* only indebted to the Piety and Charity of *Henry the Sixth*; he shew'd us also many Instances of his Princely Bounty: To him, amongst other Gifts, we owe our useful Aqueduct. This Prince was indeed nothing but Goodness, Meekness, Innocence and Devotion. Good Man! but in this unhappy, that he had all the Saint, but too little of the King. But that Lamb-like Carriage, and inoffensive Soul, might have charm'd even thy Heart, inhuman *Glocester*. Was it not enough that your Brother had his Crown? Must you needs envy him a Prison, which he not only made the Seat of Devotion, but

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of Contentment too? He dy'd indeed piteously, stab'd by thy cruel Hand; but he will for ever live in the noble Colleges, of which he was the generous Founder. It will be the first Question in the Mouths of our latest Posterity, and of all Foreigners which shall visit us, who it was that gave the neighbouring magnificent Chappel; the noblest *Gothic* Structure that ever was erected in our own, or any other Nation.

When we next speak of him, whom by Way of Eminence we style our Founder, it wou'd be a small Thing to mention that he had given *France* and *Scotland* numerous Proofs of his martial Bravery; and all *Europe* of his Learning, Magnificence and Generosity; much of these he did in common with many of his Predecessors. It is his peculiar Praise to have dar'd to throw off and despise Catholic Impositions, most ancient Superstitions. It is an easy Matter for a Prince to second the Inclinations of his People desiring a Reformation; but to strike against a Torrent, to venture to trample on what the mistaken many call sacred, requires a Spirit as daring, intrepid, and resolute, as that of *Henry the Eighth*. It was his undaunted Soul that broke its Way thro' palpable Darknes, a Chaos of Ignorance and Bigottry, for Light, Learning, and Truth, to enter. For this, he bravely contemn'd the Dislikes of the neighbouring Princes, the Seditions of his own People,
and

and the Thunders of the Vatican. We need not, we do not pretend to vindicate all the Steps he took in bringing about so desirable an End; the Actions of all, even of the greatest of Men, have many Mixtures of human Frailty and Imperfection. But if some of his Actions are thought to need Apologies, they will however well admit of them: If he was too rugged and severe in some of his Proceedings, it must be withal own'd that it was towards the latter Part of his Life, when he had been sower'd with numberless Rebellions at Home, and exasperated by the Intrigues, Threatnings and Anathema's of the Court of *Rome*. If he applied not all, which a well-meaning but mistaken and much abused Piety had consecrated, to laudable and charitable Uses, as he might have done, it is in it self greatly to be lamented; but considering his Circumstances, very pardonable. It was necessary to make some of his great Men firm to a Change, to which they had no Inclination; it was most prudent to enable them to defend a Reformation, who were willing to do it. But he spent no little Part of the Riches of the Monasteries in pious and far better Uses than the first Givers ever design'd them. By these, he gave more Bishops to our too large Dioceses, and furnish'd the new erected Cathedrals with proper Members and Endowments. Out of these, he gave many Professorships to the

Universities; and in our Foundation, he increased the Settlements on the Former, now united Societies, with Revenues not to be equall'd by those of any College in these Kingdoms, and perhaps by few in *Europe*.

This ample and generous Settlement was confirm'd to us by his Son and Successor, *Edward the Sixth*; a Prince, whose admirable Piety and distinguishing Parts seem'd design'd by Providence only to give us an Idea of a Blessing which we deserved not.

He was follow'd in his Liberality to us, tho' not in his Reformation, by Queen *Mary*; a Princess, like her next declaredly Popish Successor, great and admirable in other Respects, and only unhappy thro' a blind and invincible Attachment to the See of *Rome*: Unhappy, in that it render'd all her great Qualities almost useless to her self, pernicious to her People. To her we owe several noble Estates; a third of our Fellowships and Scholarships; the brave Fabric, which now contains us, calls her its Foundress.—Alas! that we should need to draw a Vail over her other Actions: That she should have stain'd her munificent Hands in the Blood of our Martyr'd Bishops! That her imprudent Zeal should have suffer'd the Kindling of those Fires, that consum'd some that set her on the Throne, the most innocent, and who might have been the most useful of her Subjects! I am glad, that to say any more of Her, wou'd be a Deviation
from

from my Subject; for I have all the Deference I ought to have for the Majesty of Princes; wou'd not needlessly disturb their Ashes; nor load them with Reflexions improper both for the Speaker and Occasion.

But leaving the ghastly Scene of Popery restor'd with the Blood and Fire and Cruelty that attended it; let us turn our Eyes to Queen *Elizabeth*, the Wonder and Glory of her Sex and Times. It was she, who gave us our present Statutes; which, however they have been carp'd at by injudicious Men, will for ever do credit to their Composers: They need no Apology, but what the apparent Change of Times and Circumstances will make obvious to every thinking Man. Let them be but read and executed, there is no Fear of the sinking of their Reputation. The same Princess granted the *Corn Act*, the wisest and most beneficial that ever was made for us, and our Universities in general. She was also Founder and Patroness of *Westminster-School*, from whence our Society receives an annual and noble Supply. Illustrious Queen! for ever shall thy Lawrels, for ever the Fame of thy Wisdom flourish. If to praise thee, be a sufficient Return for the Favours conferr'd on us, we can never want Incense worthy thy Memory. In vain did Hell and *Rome* unite their Rage against thee; even *Rome* did not hate thee more than it admir'd the Sagacity and Bravery of thy Conduct. In vain were Plots and
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Rebellions stirr'd up at Home; you still stand untouch'd and victorious. In vain were thy Subjects set free from their Allegiance by Papal Absolutions; the Papal Curses flew innocently by thee, thy happy People did only not adore thee. *Spain* indeed fondly and blindly accepted the Pope's Donation of these Kingdoms, and loaded our Seas with an *Armado*, which too presumptuously they had beforehand named the *Invincible*. What avail'd all their mighty Preparations? Cou'd they have arm'd the rest of the Universe against us, it had only turn'd to its Shame and Confusion, as it did to theirs. We were safe under the Almighty's Protection, *he blow'd with his Wind, and they were scattered*. The mighty Queen, secure of the Love of her God and her People, sat unshaken on her Throne. *Holland* shall for ever bless and revere her Memory, to whom, next to God and its own Bravery, it owes its Religious and Civil Liberties. Nor is it to lessen *his present Majesty*, to say he only treads in her Steps, when he makes the World sensible what it is to have a *British* Monarch hearty in the Protestant Cause; when *Spain* trembles at the Approach of his Fleets, and their Thunders on the *Baltic* dispose the affrighted North to Peace. As long as the *British* Name shall live in the World, till History perish, till Time be no more, the glorious Queen shall be confess'd Superior to most, equal to the
greatest

greatest Kings; out-shining all the illustrious Women with which her Age abounded; who has had none that ought to be named before her, nor scarce a Second.

Her Successor to this Crown, the first Monarch of the whole *British* Dominions, was a Prince of very extraordinary Learning, and a great Patron of learned Men; and has left us of this Society valuable Monuments of his Royal Favour.

We will now leave our Princes for a Time, and speak of some, who had as great Minds, tho' less Fortunes. And here the first Place falls very justly to our great Master *Nevil*, a Man of a Sacred and most distinguished Character; so eminently, so worthily known, that he was deputed by the whole Body of our Clergy, to congratulate King *James the First* in their Name, upon his Accession to this Crown. By his Direction and Encouragement, the College with admirable Contrivance, and mighty Expence connected the Parts of the several Buildings belonging to the formerly distinct Societies, into the spacious and stately *Court* adjoining. To this he added the Hall, and at his own Charge the greater Part of that lofty and regular *Court* behind it. He held with our Mastership, the Deanery of *Canterbury*: Noble Preferment! but unequal to the Merit of such a Man. But it is more for his Honour, that it should be ask'd why he mounted no farther, than why he rose
so

so high. And it was happy for us, that he met with so little Encouragement from Abroad; that his magnificent Thoughts, and liberal Hand, was confin'd within the Limits of the College. With us he will ever deservedly bear the Name of a great Benefactor; great, and only second to our Founders.

The next of our Benefactors in Eminency and Time, was the pious and learned, the great *Bishop Hacket*; great in Learning, Goodness and Charity; in a Life abounding with useful and mighty Liberalities. This was the generous and painful Restorer of his Cathedral of *Lichfield*: This was the most considerable Contributor to our public Library, that late Ages have known, his present Majesty only excepted. This was the kind Bishop that rebuilt our Hostel, and apply'd its Rents to the replenishing our College-Library. We have there already a Provision of Books by no Means contemptible; but by this good Man's Munificence, we shall in Time have a Collection worthy the Place they stand in, one of the noblest, if not altogether the best Room in *Great-Britain*.

Our College bred the venerable Man we have been speaking of, and to its great Honour also, that Prodigy of Learning *Barrow*; *Barrow*, eminent and famous, and among all the great Men who have been Masters here, worthy to be remembered, the Reviver
of

of mathematical Studies amongst us. To him we owe the Beginnings of the stately and glorious Fabric, the Library; by his unwearied and almost infinite Pains, and well-apply'd Sollicitations, that costly Work went forward with small Burden to the Society: A Work, the Admiration, if not the Envy of our Neighbours, which shall perpetuate the Memory of its great Projector and Promoter; nor shall *Wren* live longer, or be more deservedly famous in his *St. Paul's*, than with us.

Whilst we receiv'd these ample Favours from private Hands, the Sun-shine of the Royal Favour was either wholly diverted, or cast but feeble Rays upon us; we have little Memorable, besides Privileges granted to some of the Professors, who are frequently our Members, by the good-natur'd and liberal King *Charles the Second*.

But I was just about to add, among our Benefactors, the late heroical King *William*, the Invincible and Immortal *Nassau: Nassau!* glorious and injur'd Name; a Name that never sounds in my Ears, but a generous Love to Mankind, Zeal for the Protestant Interest, Liberty, Victory, and Glory, and a thousand other magnificent and pleasing Ideas rise in my Mind. He might well have a principal Place here, if the Preservation of Religion in its Purity, Freedom from arbitrary Power and popish Superstitions, be a Benefaction; if a Liberty to act according to our Oaths and Consciences be such. But

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these and their joyful Effects are not peculiar to us ; we received them in common with the three Kingdoms, or rather, with the Protestant Name, or Bulk of *Europe*.

But whilst we are speaking of Princes and Worthies, I had almost said, in a less allowable Phrase, of Heroes and Demi-Gods: Can we forget the late illustrious Queen? the last of the *Stuarts*, I had called her the best too, but that she had a Sister. Is not she to be numbred amongst our Benefactors, who gave up so considerable a Branch of her Revenue for the Relief of our indigent Brethren of the Clergy? by whose Bounty the many too mean Preferments in the Gift of this Society will, in Time, be all of them valuable; Who has put it into our Power, if we please to make them so immediately: And there can be no Doubt, but amongst other great Designs, this has sometimes had a Place in our Master's Thoughts. We need not apprehend, but that the Rest of the governing Part will readily fall in with a Proposal, so much for the Benefit and Honour of the Society. That it is in their Power, is owing to that late incomparable Princess, and to his sacred Majesty, who has given all possible Assistance towards rendring her Bounty effectual: A Benefaction, the greatest we of the Clergy owe to any of our Crown'd Heads, since the Reformation: Except Liberty, and the Property to every Thing we enjoy, the Gifts of her Predecessor.

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If it cou'd be allow'd to do Justice to all, even of the eminent Part of our Benefactors; we ought to mention besides these, the great *Arch-Bishop Whitgift*, the most noble and famous Duke of *Buckingham*, the late honourable the Earl of *Kent*, the Ladies *Fermin*, *Weld* and *Bromley*; the worthy and bounteous Sir *Edward Stanhope*, the generous and magnificent Sir *Thomas Slater*, the good Sir *Henry Puckering*, the learned and venerable *Allen*, *Duport* and *Babington*; who have left us valuable Memorials of themselves in our Estate, Plate and Books. And among these, we should also reckon—but I have taken upon me to celebrate the Stars, which are all bright and glorious, but not to be number'd.

Our Benefactors have been very many, and their Liberalities have and will give us many more: What may we not expect from some who have honour'd us with their Education, who have been main Supporters of the Crown, since the beginning of the present happy Constitution, or give us Assurance that it is like to suffer no Shock, at least in our Times? If it be not too presumptuous, it is much for our Honour, to take all Occasions to mention our *Macklesfields*, our *Lucas's*, our *Hartfords*. For my own Part, I please myself, that our Master is not the only Person that designs great Things for us; I flatter myself that I may live to see our great Court exceed in the Loftiness and Symmetry of its

Buildings all the rest in *Great-Britain*, as much as it now does in its Area; that *Bentley* shall improve upon *Nevil*, as much as he did on his Predecessors; that our old shall look more of a Piece with the new Square; that we shall Silence the Boastings of the *Oxonians*, and Eclipse the Glory of *Peckwater*.

To stir up noble Minds, to encourage future Benefactions, some little shou'd be, and it is but a little that must be said, of the Excellency and Usefulness of such Foundations as this. They are intended to be the Seminaries of Men well-principled in Piety, Learning and Morals, and fitted for the Service of Religion and the State. That as the greatest Men are but Men, and the best and wisest are all equally included under the unalterable Necessity of dying, there might be here a Supply to remedy human Frailty and Imperfection. Our Founders had it in their Desires, that whilst Men were improving themselves in ingenuous Studies, making themselves equal to the Service of God and their Country, they might be free from Anxieties, above the low Care of providing themselves a Maintenance; that some Number of those, who had made a Progress in laudable Improvements, and were honour'd with suitable Degrees, might be able to reside here, for the governing and training up of others; might subsist here with Decency, and some little of Dignity. And this was worthy of them; for unhappy is the, however

ever great, Probity and Learning that is born to be poor; naked of every Defence, it is expos'd to all the Insults, Indignities, and hard Treatment, which Pride, Avarice, Wickedness and Ignorance are profusely lavish of. It is not a sacred Character, nor the Lawn, more than the Cassock, if its Revenues should be sequester'd, that can protect from Insolence: It is well if the wealthy Part even of the same Order observe all the good Breeding and Charity, which their Characters require. But our Benefactors have in a good Measure provided against this: And how eminent is their Desert, how extensive their Charity? To have brought up one useful Man, is no small Service to the Public; to have sincerely endeavour'd it, is an Action better deserving the gorgeous Names of brave and heroical, than those that usually are stamp'd with them. To have made a few good Christians, to have render'd a small Parish wiser and better, is, at least in the Sight of God, a noble Action. How much more is it such, to have provided for the Improvement of all future Generations; to have given Means for the enabling a continual Succession of Men, to instruct a considerable Part of a Nation in Truth and Holiness?

Nor hath our Foundation fell short in the Success, which its Benefactors expected from it: There was once a Time, when there was in the Kingdom of all Faculties at least
Sixty

Sixty Doctors, who had their Education here; when most of the public Professorships were fill'd by our Members; when we had near half the Deaneries together in Possession, both the Archiepiscopal and seven other Mitres at once on the Heads of such as had been of this Society. It is pardonable to be particular in a Circumstance, so much for our Glory, so very extraordinary, that perhaps no College in either University can boast of any Thing like it.

Besides these, and numerous others of the greatest Church-men, if we may go about to Glory in such of our Society who have worn the long Robe with Splendour, we cou'd mention a *Cook*, a *Bacon*, and a greater Name than either of them: If in those who have excell'd in all the sprightly Wit and harmonious Beauties of Poesie, we had a *Cowley* and a *Dryden*: If the greatest Depths in Mathematicks, the most happy Researches into natural Things be to be admir'd, we have lately, at least such was the Loss that it still seems so, we have buried a *Cotes*; *Newton* still lives, both of them will for ever live to our Honour.

That such Men as these have been produc'd, is owing to the Founders of this great Society; that there are still amongst us who have, and shall again greatly fill the Divinity-Chair; who can direct the Doubting Conscience, and free the Mind from those perplexing Anxieties, to which we are so liable,

liable, thro' human Weakness and intricate Circumstances ; who preserve the Laws and Customs of Nations, the Rights of Mankind ; That we have who can Measure the distant Heavens, and unravel the Secrets of Nature ; who can repair the Decays of the languishing Body, give new Life and Vigour to declining Nature, and retard the threatening Approaches of Death ; who preserve the Tongues which have been spoken by the Mouth of God and Angels, and in which are written the Laws of our Creator, the holy Lives, and illustrious Actions of our Redeemer and his Saints ; In short, that we have such as can improve us in all Learning, human and divine, is the Praise of our illustrious and generous Founders.

And as the Virtue is not, so I hope the Success of the Society is not on the Decline ; if promising Merit may presage a Fortune, I shall behold more than one of the now vacant Escutcheons about us embellish'd with the Ensigns of Dignities ; when some of our flourishing Number shall add Supporters to the Crown, and continue a Lustre to the Mitre.

But we would willingly bespeak greater Things for our Society ; we would hope that it is here, that the last signal Gift of an adorable Providence, the youngest of the Royal Progeny, shall receive the Improve-

provements which Letters add to the greatest natural Endowments. 'Tis here, we please our selves, that he shall acquire those Princely Qualities, which, in a remoter Age, shall give a Lustre to his Merit, as distinguishing as that of his Royal Grandfather; shall shew him worthy his Father, and second to his Brother, among the *European* Princes.

And to make our selves worthy of such pleasing Hopes, we shou'd go on, as we do, vigorously to prosecute all polite and useful, but especially Theological Studies; for which our Founders design'd the Generality of us. Others may give livelier, more passionate Touches to the Canvas, or teach the form'd Marble to counterfeit Action; let them artfully raise the Mind by sprightly Harmony, or lull it with softly dying Sounds: 'Tis our Part to form the Minds of Men; to instruct them in the Nature of God and his adorable Perfections; to set before them the Merits and Mercies of their Redeemer, the Purity, Holiness, Peaceableness, and Goodness requir'd in the Gospel; to represent to them the present Advantages of observing those blessed Laws, the Disadvantages of neglecting them: But above all, to affright them from Sins by the Terrors of future, never ceasing Torments; and to fire their Minds with the glorious Ambition of obtaining
immor-

immortal Rewards, inconceivable and endless Happiness. And if we prosecute this noble and principal End of our Foundation, as we do, as we ought, besides the Advantages that will accrue to Religion and our selves, it will be the most grateful Return to our Benefactors; it will rejoyce their holy Souls to receive Companions from our Hands, worthy Heaven, like to themselves.

And now what remains, but to give Adoration and Thanks to the Father of Mercies, and Fountain of Goodness, God blessed for ever, who put it into the Minds of our Benefactors to do so many great Things for us: To give numerous Blessings to their Memory, from whom we have receiv'd such unspeakable Advantages: To make a thousand Vows to do our Parts towards the great Ends which they propos'd in their Liberality: That we send up continual Supplications to the eternal Throne; that this Royal and Religious Foundation may continue a. Seminary to Piety, Learning and Loyalty; may stand unimpair'd by the Injuries of Time, be coeval with the Christian Church, and not dissolv'd but with the Universe.

F I N I S.

